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THE CASE

London .. I. Petitions
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Of the Merchants, Importers of *Wines* into the Port of *London*.

BY the *Preſent Dutys*, there is *paid* for the *Wines Imported* into *London*, more than for *Wines Imported* into the *Out-Ports* of this Kingdom.

		20 Parts
Viz. For *Spaniſh*, *Levant* and *Portugal Wines* Enter'd *Fill'd* (with all allowances)	*l.*	4. 05. 4.
Ditto *French*,	*l.*	4. 8. 11. 4.
For *Spaniſh*, *Levant* and *Portugal Wines* Enter'd *unfill'd* (with all allowances)	*l.*	3. 14. 6. 8.
Ditto *French*,	*l.*	3. 18. 1. 12.

THAT, by reaſon of the aforeſaid *Difference* the *Importation* of *Wines* into the *Out-Ports*, hath of late *Years* much *Encreas'd*, and *will further Encreaſe*, whereby the *Revenue will be greatly leſſend*, and the *Merchants of London* diſcouraged in their *Importations* of *Wines* into this *Port*, by Reaſon that *Wines Imported* into the *Out-Ports*, may be brought within a *ſmall diſtance* of this *City*, and *Sold much Cheaper* than the *Merchants of London* can *afford theirs*, which might be *prevented* in Caſe the *Merchants of London* and the *other Merchants* were put on the ſame Footing.

Objection. IT has been ſaid in Favour of the *Out-Ports*, that *Wines Imported* into the *ſaid Ports* pay *Prizage*, which *Duty Wines Imported* into the *Port of London* are exempted from.

N. B. *PRIZAGE* is One Ton of *Wine* due on a Ship bringing 10 Tons of *Wines*, and not exceeding 19 Tons, or 2 Tons due on 20 Tons of *Wine*, and *no more* is due tho' there ſhould be 150 *Tons or upwards*. The *Butler* may take this in kind, paying 20*s.* *per* Ton Freight, and all the Cuſtoms due, or he may *Compound* the ſame with the *Merchants*, which he uſually does.

Anſwer 1ſt. SOME of the *Out-Ports*, as *Southampton*, the *Cinque Ports* and *Cheſter*, where many *Wines* are *Imported*, are *exempted* from *Prizage*.

2d. THE *Merchants* who Import Wines at *London* *free of Prizage*, muſt not only be *free* of *the City*, but *Houſhoulders within the ſaid City*, which the *greater Part* of them are not.

3d. AT *London*, tho' 3, or 400 *Pipes* are *Imported* on a Ship by *Importers not free of Prizage*, a *Compoſition* of 2*s.* *per* Ton is paid on the *Whole*.

4th. WHERE *Prizage* is due in the *Out-Ports*, if the *Prizage Maſter* will not *Compound* on eaſy Terms, the *Merchants* often *Compound* at *another Port*,

N. B. THAT by the *Dutys* as now laid on *Wines*, *Britiſh Subjects* pay in *London* the ſame as *Foreingers* or *Aliens* pay in the *Out-Ports*, and that on all *Merchandizes except Wines*, the *Duties* are paid at *all Ports alike*.

WHEREFORE, *its humbly hop'd* the ſaid *Merchants Caſe* may be taken into *Conſideration*, and they *relieved* in the *Premiſes*, in ſuch Manner as may be thought moſt *Reaſonable*.